



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
KC FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL
POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of ammunition. Today's sentencing, Graves said, marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Lionell Hamilton, 43, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to three years and 10 months in federal prison without parole.

On Oct. 28, 2003, **Hamilton** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of eight rounds of P.M.C. 9 mm ammunition. By pleading guilty, **Hamilton** admitted that he was in possession of the ammunition on May 25, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Hamilton** has three 1995 criminal felony convictions for manslaughter, armed criminal action and possession of a controlled substance.

Hamilton was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Aug. 21, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow